

SEPTEMBER UPDATE

UPPER SCHOOL



SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS FOR WWS FAMILIES

STUDENTS IN ACTION

>>> SENIOR SEMINAR

All seniors participate in Senior Seminar as their final writing class at WWS. Seniors are currently working on selecting colleges to apply for, exploring post-grad career opportunities and internships, and taking on a greater leadership presence on campus. The seniors have been given a budget and tasked with not only designing and selecting furniture for the student lounge, but also creating expectations for use and rolling those expectations out to the upper school student body. Stay tuned for pictures of the final product!

SUMMER READING PICNIC <<<

Students participated in summer reading book chats on Friday, September 22nd. Students discussed their selected novels and enjoyed Italian ice and popsicles on campus.





Abenaki Trail

Farm Pond Loop

Governor Dinsmoor

POLICY & PROCEDURE

»»» TARDIES

Teachers are using our student information system, “Blackbaud” every period in order to track student attendance. If a student is tardy for class, their tardy is now recorded on Blackbaud. If a student has 5 tardies combined (could be in different classes), parents will be notified. Students have been showing incredible growth in this area already!

»»» CELL PHONE POLICY

Teachers report increased engagement in the classroom as a result of our new cell phone policy. The sound in the Great Hall at lunch is incredible as students are not using their phones, but are socializing with one another! While the transition has been a challenging one for many students, we see a tremendous value in this change.

WHO DO I CONTACT

Please reference the [upper contacts list](#) found in the appendix of the handbook in order to direct your questions to the appropriate staff member.

Academic questions should be referred to the content area teacher **and then** the department head.

Department Heads

Reading - Taedra Johnson

Math - Laura Malmgren

Literature/Writing & History - Ryan Deery

Science - Kristen Vicente

PROGRAMMING

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➤➤➤ CAREER AND COLLEGE COUNSELING

Juniors

- Student meetings with Ryan Deery, Director of Career & College Counseling, will begin after Thanksgiving break. Parents will be individually consulted before February. The focus of these meetings is to identify the needs and wants of students after graduation.

Seniors

- Wednesday, September 20th - Seniors attended the Southern New Hampshire University college fair
- October 1st - FASFA forms are available. Senior parents will be sent the link from Ryan Deery.
- October 15th - Early application deadlines begin

➤➤➤ STUDENT WORK

In lieu of general biweekly class updates, all parents will have access to their child's portfolio folder on Google Drive by the end of October. Students will upload at least one assignment in each content area per month. This process will not only provide parents with regular samples of student work but will also support students as they select work to be highlighted in their Mastery Transcript.

DID YOU KNOW?

We are lucky to have not only one, but two published authors on our upper school staff. Check out Maija Barnett's second novel, [The Song I'm In](#), and Roxana Trabulsi's debut novel [Of Mud and Honey](#).

STUDENT EVENTS

>>> HOMECOMING DANCE

We will be hosting our annual Homecoming dance in the Great Hall on Friday, September 29th from 6:30 - 9:00 pm. Students will be provided with dinner and drinks and may bring one high school aged guest with a completed permission slip. Email Ben Ark (bark@windhamwoods.org) for more information.

>>> FALL FEST

We will host our annual Fall Fest on Thursday, October 26th during the school day. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a scarecrow building contest, pumpkin carving, and a staff vs. student flag football game. Please be on the lookout for an email from the WWSPA for volunteer and donation information.



AMC TRIP <<<

Half of upper school students will be attending the AMC trip to the White Mountains on October 18th - 20th while the other half will be working together on campus to convert an existing outdoor structure into what we are fondly referring to as "Thoreau's cabin", which will provide an alternative classroom site for students to meet. Students both attending the trip and staying on campus will have the opportunity to enhance their teamwork and leadership skills.

LEADERSHIP FLEX

Student Council - Speeches and elections will be held in the Great Hall on Wednesday, October 11th.

Yearbook - We have partnered with Josten's yearbook company and students will be creating a separate upper school yearbook.

Peer Leaders - Upper school students have prepared a variety of games and activities to build social skills and confidence and will begin working with elementary students this week.

PARENT EVENTS

➤➤ CURRICULUM NIGHT

We look forward to welcoming families on campus on Thursday, October 5th at 6:00 pm for our annual curriculum night. Upper school will be following a different format this year in order to provide parent choice for classroom visits and more time for school wide programming information. Please see below for the schedule.

- **6:00 - 6:30** Welcome & Department Presentations
- **6:30 - 7:15** Gallery Walk through Classrooms
- **7:15 - 8:00** Mastery Transcript & DC Trip Assembly

➤➤ GUEST SPEAKER: DR. ANGELA CURRIE

Please join us we welcome Dr. Angela Currie on Tuesday, October 24th in the Great Hall. Dr. Currie is the NH director of Neuropsychology and Education Services for Children and Adolescents (NESCA) and she will be discussing anxiety, attention deficit and executive function challenges in children and teens. See below for the schedule:

- **5:00** Upper School Parent Mixer
- **6:00** Wine & cheese reception (all school)
- **6:45** Lecture and Q&A Session (all school)

**“IF WE WANT OUR CHILDREN TO MOVE MOUNTAINS,
WE FIRST HAVE TO LET THEM GET OUT OF THEIR CHAIRS.”**

– NICOLETTE SOWDER